

**Conservation Commission**  
**Monthly Report**  
**October 2023**

The Commission continues its work enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act and local Bylaws and Regulation through site inspections on new and continuing projects, as well as community outreach. The Commission held two meetings in October.

At the Commission's October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting the Commission had one Request for Determination for reconstruction of the Barnum Road Bridge over Bowers Brook for the Department of Public Works. The Commission issued a Negative Determination for the work. The public hearing for 201-205 West Main Street was finally closed with the issuance of an Order of Conditions with the Special Conditions being reviewed by both the applicant and the Commission. Finally, the Commission reviewed a request from Ayer Solar II to remove the erosion controls around the project starting after the second replication area. The project is almost complete and stable, and the erosion controls are no longer needed. The Commission reviewed the request with Mr. Nick Pauling from GPR and agreed to have them removed with a few conditions.

At the Commission second meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> the Commission reviewed a Request for Determination of Applicability for an oil water separator to be installed on existing stormwater infrastructure at Catania Oils. The Commission issued a Negative Determination for the work. The Commission then opened a public hearing for 71 Sandy Pond Road for a Notice of Intent for the construction of two, two-family houses, one, two separate lots. The Commission scheduled a site visit for Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup>. Lastly the Commission reviewed and voted on the request for an extension on the Order of Conditions for Ayer Solar II for one year to allow for the Order to continue through the next growing season for the replication areas.

The Conservation Agent continues to meet with residents to discuss projects on their property and the removal of any vegetation. The Agent is busy looking into projects for the next year as well as any potential funding opportunities that may be available.

Submitted by Heather Hampson, Conservation Agent for the Conservation Commission